

Message

## ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY REPORT

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[Duffy.Rick@epa.gov]  
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Report Highlights

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## Highlights

### LEADING THE NEWS

#### Duke Grapples with Storm Damage at Nuclear Plant, Coal-Ash Site

By Mark Niquette and Ari Natter

Duke Energy Corp. grappled with deadly Hurricane Florence's aftereffects as a breach in a coal-ash landfill worsened and its Brunswick nuclear plant declared a low-level emergency because of flooding.

#### Coal Ash, Sewage Spill Over as Florence Floods the Carolinas

By Mark Niquette and Christopher Flavelle

A Duke Energy Corp. landfill near Wilmington, N.C., failed under the assault of Tropical Depression Florence, spilling about 2,000 cubic yards of coal ash that can carry toxic mercury, arsenic and lead.

## Chemours Plant Inaccessible to N.C. Inspectors Due to Flooding

By David Schultz

Hurricane Florence has rendered a Chemours Co. plant that produces toxic, long-lasting chemicals that have contaminated water supplies in North Carolina inaccessible to state inspectors.

## Florence's Rains Are Kicking Hydroelectric Dams into Overdrive

By Jim Efstathiou Jr.

Florence's driving rains are forcing hydroelectric dam operators to run generators at full tilt and open floodgates that haven't been used in more than 20 years.

## Omitted Health Costs Could Tip Scales on EPA Methane Rollback

By Abby Smith

The EPA knows its plans to relax Obama-era oil and gas methane limits could harm public health due to related air pollution increases, but it hasn't calculated the exact toll on health.

## **TODAY'S NEWS**

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### Lawsuits Likely as EPA Denies Md., Del. Calls for Pollution Aid (1)

By Amena H. Saiyid

Maryland plans to sue the EPA over the agency's refusal to mandate air pollution controls on out-of-state power plant emissions that are preventing the state from meeting federal air quality standards.

### Florence's Path Shows Pentagon Has to Fight Climate Threats Too

By Eric Roston and Mark Niquette

As warships, soldiers and aircraft make their way back to ports and bases emptied in advance of Hurricane Florence, planners are left to assess what the

Pentagon has warned could become more frequent: large-scale evacuations driven by rising seas and increasingly severe storms.

### **Drone Army Is Ready to Swoop in for Florence Power Recovery**

By Naureen S. Malik

After Hurricane Florence deluged the southeastern U.S., a small army of drones is being deployed to identify and fix damage caused by flooding.

### **Atlantic Coast Gas Pipeline Can Resume Construction, FERC Says**

By Ryan Collins

Construction activities for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline along project areas that previously received a stop work order can now continue, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission said Sept. 17.

### **Asbestos in Schools: EPA Failing to Protect Students, Report Says**

By Pat Rizzuto

The EPA must better protect students, teachers, and workers from asbestos in schools as Congress required, according to the agency's inspector general.

### **Big Oil Acts to Police Itself as U.S. Relaxes Climate Regulation**

By Kelly Gilblom

The U.S. has relaxed environmental rules on oil companies, yet they aren't fully embracing the change.

### **Cities Get More Time to Align Road Projects With Ozone Limits**

By Amena H. Saiyid

More than 80 U.S. urban areas can have more time to demonstrate their road-building plans don't interfere with their goals for meeting air pollution standards, a federal court said.

## **French Assembly Postpones Three-Year Phaseout of Roundup**

By Tiffany Stecker

France's failure to enact a plan to prohibit a common weedkiller by 2021 is putting pressure on the country's new environmental minister to follow through on a promise to ban glyphosate.

## **Audi Plans a Dozen Electric Vehicles to Take on Tesla's Lineup**

By Christoph Rauwald

Audi is looking to show electric-car shoppers they will soon have much more to choose from than Teslas.

## **Hog Lagoons Stay Contained Amid Pelting Rains, Governor Says**

By Olivia Carville

North Carolina's hog-manure lagoons have stayed contained so far, according to the state, as the region continues to get pelted with rain from the remnants of Hurricane Florence.

## **Pipe Operator Behind Massachusetts Blasts Had Prior Violations**

By Ryan Collins

The NiSource Inc. unit behind multiple gas explosions near Boston Sept. 13 has a long history of violations in the state.

## **Coal Resurgence Puts U.K. on Track to Reverse Emissions Cuts**

By Rachel Morison

Britain is burning more coal, causing emission levels to rise as stations fire up made more profitable by the highest prices for natural gas in a decade

## **Maersk Says Customers to Pay for \$2 Billion-a-Year Fuel Hike**

By Christian Wienberg

The cost of delivering world trade is about to go up.

## Polish Officials Try to Shake Off Shroud of Air Pollution

By Bogdan Turek

The reality that no place in Poland has clean air and that it will take years to remedy this situation seems to be spurring some government action.

## Breen to Be Executive Chairman of New DuPont, With Doyle as CEO

By Jack Kaskey

DowDuPont Inc. named Chief Executive Officer Ed Breen to serve as executive chairman of DuPont when it becomes an independent company next year.

## More Than Half of South Africa's Coal Plants Low on Stock

By Ana Monteiro and Paul Burkhardt

More than half of South Africa's core coal plants are running low on fuel, with at least four holding less than 10 days of supply, and the country's power utility plans on trucking and railing emergency stocks as far as 400 kilometers (249 miles).

## University of Michigan to Boost Investments in Natural Resources

By Janet Lorin

The University of Michigan's endowment plans to increase its investment in three natural-resources funds, including one that focuses on acquiring royalties in renewable energy projects.

## **WEEKEND WRAPUP**

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## Thousands of Chemical Makers in the Crosshairs in Chinese Province

By Michael Standaert

At least 1,000 chemical production facilities in China's Jiangsu province could be forced to close or relocate in the face of new environmental standards and inspections.

### **Sherwin-Williams, ConAgra: Top Court Should Hear Lead Paint Ruling (Corrected)**

By Peter Hayes

Attorneys for the Sherwin-Williams Co. and ConAgra Grocery Products Co. Sept. 14 gave a variety of reasons why the U.S. Supreme Court may hear their challenge to a California decision holding them liable for creating a lead paint nuisance in hundreds of thousands of older homes.

### **EPA Science Policy Purged Researchers, Advocates Tell Judge**

By Adrienne Appel

An EPA policy barring scientists who receive agency grants from providing advice on scientific matters is arbitrary and amounts to a purging of top researchers, a scientists' group told a federal judge Sept. 14.

### **EPA Ordered to Complete Review of Incinerator Limits by 2021**

By Amena H. Saiyid

A federal court has given the EPA until May 2021 to finish reviewing and possibly revising air pollution limits for new and existing solid waste incinerator units that the agency set back in 2005.

### **Warren Calls for More Corporate Reporting on Climate Risks (1)**

By Andrea Vittorio

Public companies would have to provide investors with more information on risks they face from climate change under new legislation from Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.).

### **Los Angeles Muscles Its Way to the Front of the E-Car Pack**

By Joyce E. Cutler

Los Angeles, a city well-known for its love affair with cars, still has the sun, the wind, and the muscle to push back against climate change, Mayor Eric Garcetti (D) said.

## **ING Eyes How Companies It Lends to Will Weather Climate Change**

By Emily Chasan

ING Groep NV plans to consider how companies' efforts to reduce climate change will influence their ability to pay their debts, as the bank steers money in its 500 billion euro (\$581 billion) corporate-lending portfolio.

## **Chicago Shifts \$8 Billion Portfolio to ESG Investing Strategy**

By Emily Chasan

Chicago is shifting its \$8 billion portfolio to make all of its corporate-securities investments using environmental, social and governance factors.

## **Health Professionals Can Lead on Climate, Advocates Say**

By Joyce E. Cutler

Health professionals are uniquely positioned to advocate for climate change mitigation and the need for action to prevent unnecessary deaths, health advocates argue.



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